Revenue (1924) Department

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. 537 Revo

DATED 8 1-3-1924.

[Despatch Abstract.]

From ... (Bellary) Collector's notes of inspection by the Director of Public Health.

B

O.F. 81.

REVENUE **DEPARTMENT.**

CURRENT No.

REVENUE-B
529
13-3-24

UNDER SECY TO GOVT
16 MAR
REVENUE DEPT

*Receive*d 19 . *Registered* 19

Subject

Famine- Bellary- Notes of Inspection by the Director of Public Health- Submitted to Government.

ENCLOSURES.
No.
Spare copies

Refce. **No.** F. 885/24-1.

Station Madras., *Dated the* 12th March 19 24

From

W. Scott Brown Esq.,I.C.S.,
Secretary,
The Board of Revenue, ~~Revenue Settlement, etc.~~ Land Revenue and ~~Separate Revenue.~~

N. Macmichael Esq., I.C.S.,
Commr. of Land Revenue & Settlement.

Resolution
Reference.

Read the following paper:-

Letter from Dr. K. T. Matthew, D.Hy., D.P.H.,(Cantab.) Acting Director of Public Health, Madras, No.D.54/P.H. dated 5-3-24.

Reference.

Submitted to Government.

2. In the Board's opinion it is not necessary to increase the scale of wages or to reduce the task.

3. The attention of the Collector of Bellary is invited to the remarks of the Director of Public Health regarding the management of the kitchen and he is requested to report whether the rations for dependants are in accordance with

with the scale laid down in section 128(a) of the Famine Code.

W Scott Brown 12/3/24
Secretary.

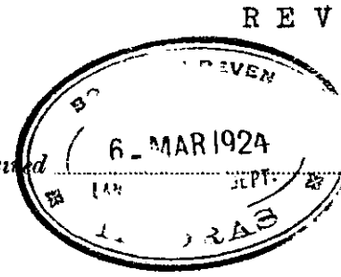
To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Dept.
,, Collector of Pellary.

J.G./12. bhn
12.3.24

G.P. 29--86,826—17-12-21.

2

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.



Received ..... 192 . *Registered* 7/7885 192 .

Subject.

Famine Bellary - Inspection notes of Relief works by the Director of Public Health, Madras.

F 44
1923-24

ENCLOSURES.

No. .....

.....

Spare copies .....

D. No. 54/GH

Station Madras, *Dated the* 4th March 1924.

54

From (Name) Dr. K.T. Matthew, D.Hy., D.P.H.(Cantab).,

(Designation) Ag. Director of Public Health,
Madras.

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Revenue Department.

Through The Famine Commissioner,
Revenue Board Office, Chepauk, Madras.

Sir,

With reference to Section 200 of the Famine Code, I have the honour to submit herewith my Inspection Notes on the Famine Relief Camps recently opened in the Bellary district.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

4/3/24

D.Hy., D.P.H.(Cantab).,
Ag. Director of Public Health, Madras.

H.V.4-3.Exd.

Inspection Notes of the Director of
Public Health, Madras.

-- -- -- -- --

On the Famine Relief Camps at Kolur and Allipuram in
Bellary District.

Inspected on 23rd and 24th February, 1924.

- - - -

Kolur camp.

This camp is located close to the village of Kolur about 11 miles north of Bellary on the Siruguppa Road. The location of the camp is for several reasons very satisfactory. It is situated on a main road and is central to a good many of the villages that are famine-affected along this side. The site is high enough and open to make it healthy and sufficiently large and level to render it easy to make all the necessary arrangements for a fairly large camp. And it has a fairly good supply of water within easy reach.

The Famine test work there commenced on the 7th of January and the relief camp opened on the 2nd February, 1924 with about 900 in the roll. On 23-1-1924 the total number receiving relief was 1143 including 119 infants and 77 dependants fed from the kitchen. Of the 947 working hands, about 120 alone are males. Apparently the males are still able to find labour on full wages in the near neighbourhood, especially in Hospet Taluk where the sugar cane cutting is still going on. This is satisfactory, as the total earnings of a family put together would still be quite sufficient to keep them in comfort. May, it has been reported that after the relief was opened there was a greater rush on the toddy shop than just before it showing that the working man can still find something for his luxuries.

P.T.O.

It is however feared that this condition cannot -- last very much longer, and unless there is early rain famine conditions are bound to become more acute. -- So the chances are that the relief measures will have to be extended.

3| The scale of wages for those attending the relief camp on 23-1-1924 was:-

Special males	...	Rs. 0-2-9
Adult male I class	...	,, 0-2-6
-do- II class	...	,, 0-2-0
Adult females	...	,, 0-2-0
Children	...	,, 0-1-9
Infants	...	,, 0-0-6

All except the last class have to earn the wages by turning out a prescribed amount of work each day. This however, is seldom done, the average nett earning being only about 80 per cent of the wages prescribed. As the scale of wages is based on the cost of the staple food grain - which is cholam, the full wages being calculated to be - sufficient to purchase enough of food grains and condiments for the bare need of the individual for the day, it is a question whether - with an average nett earning of 80 per cent of the scale prescribed, the same is possible to do so. At present the question - does not arise as the male members in most cases are still earning full wages elsewhere, but if that ceases as it is - likely, it would then be a matter for serious consideration whether the present scale should not be increased or the - amount of work prescribed reduced so as to make it possible to bring the average earning to the scale prescribed.

4| The work assigned to the persons attending the camp and the conditions under which they work are healthy and I have no remarks to offer about them, except that the practice of mothers working with their children in hand should be discouraged as much as possible as it is against the interest of them both.

5| The relief kitchen is located in an incomplete masonry building and it is well suited for the purpose and all arrangements

ments connected with it are satisfactory. The quantity of food (cooked cholam) given to each individual is regulated by certain prescribed measures which are the following dimensions:-

Adult male	...	5½" x 4" x 1½"
Adult female	...	5¼" x 4" x 1½"
Children 12 to 14	.	4 " x 3" x 2 3/8"
-do- 8 to 12	.	4" x 4 3/8" x 1½"
-do- 5 to 8	.	4" x 3" x 1½"
-do- 2 to 5	.	2.7/8" x 2.7/8" x 2".

I consider these measures need revision as the kitchen fed people although they do no work, walk several miles each day to and from their camp to their villages. As a matter of fact I found that the prescribed measures are not strictly conformed to in this camp kitchen as the quantity served is nearly 33 per cent more, which in my opinion is about right. I also consider that the quantity of dhal prescribed which I noticed was only one seer for 77 persons is insufficient. Although cholam contains a higher percentage of nitrogenous food elements than rice, the elements are by no means sufficient as food. The present scale I consider, should be increased by 50 per cent. As no fresh vegetables are included in the diet I would recommend the addition of some lime juice to dhal curry to avoid a possibility of scurvy. All food should be served hot and kept protected from flies. This practice should be strictly observed at all times.

Water Supply.

The water is obtained from a protected well belonging to the Taluk Board in the village of Kolur, which is only about 2 furlongs distant. It would be well if it can be set apart for the exclusive use of the camp, the villagers being made to make use of the other wells in the village. This would prevent all kinds of vessels from private houses being let into the well. The Sub-Assistant Surgeon on duty at the camp should also periodically chlorinate or hankinise this well. The barrel cart used for carting water should not be used for any other purpose. The supply

in the

in the well is sufficient for the present needs, but the well may have to be deepened later. Several water pandals are maintained along the work spots to give drinking water to the people. So there is little temptation to resort to undesirable sources. The cleansing of hands should be insisted on before drinking water through the paws (of hands).

7/ Conservancy.

Regarding the conservancy arrangements the camp is provided with a set of latrines with trenches. But these are very little used. So long as the people under relief - go back to their own villages and spend the night there, there is no need for more accommodation. The usual flags indicating the area within which no nuisance will be allowed are put up. - There is no evidence of any nuisance within the camp or near the work spots. This is very satisfactory.

Medical Aid.

The dispensary is kept in a tent. This may have to be replaced by a proper shed with an emergency ward (room), if the size of the camp increases. Other than 2 or 3 cases of dysentery, the health of the camp is excellent. I noticed however, a number of children with granular ophthalmia (a disease of the eye). The Medical Officer may well attend to these - cases.

The location of the isolation sheds was found too far. The shed already put up there may be retained for the isolation of smallpox cases, if any may occur. For other infectious diseases such as cholera, a site nearer, on the village side of - the road, has been selected by me where it should be put up. -- The dispensary should have a sufficient stock of disinfectants to meet any emergency.

9/ On all these points I have issued instructions to - the officers on duty at the camp and I have also discussed many of these points with the Collector of the District.

10/ A grain shop has been opened by Rao Saheb Papiah - Chetty in the camp through the efforts of the Famine Relief -

Committee

Committee to sell grains at very reasonable rates to the people. The cartage of grain from Bellary is met from provincial funds. This is a very valuable measure.

11 Among the thousand and odd under relief there are hardly any that looked really famished, indicating that the relief has been taken on hand in good time. Statistics collected from a number of neighbouring villages which are famine-stricken revealed nothing special.

12 The charge officer and all others on duty at the camp seemed to be quite alive to their responsibilities.

Allipuram camp

13 This camp is only in the process of formation and there was very little to be seen when I visited. - There was none under relief on the date of my visit - namely 23-2-1924. The site of the camp which is by the side of the Allipuram irrigation tank is suitable. There is sufficient water close by.

14 I was kindly accompanied in these inspections by the President, District Board of Bellary, Rao Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliar to whom I express my indebtedness.

D.Hy., D.P.H.(Cantab.)
Ag. Director of Public Health,
Madras.

T.S.R. 4/3 Exd.

8

Revenue Department.

Famine - Bellary - Notes of Inspection by the Director of Public Health.

The Board's reference and the report of the D.P.H. may be perused. The D.P.H. may be asked for what reasons he proposes increase of the rates and measures. He says that hardly any of these people look famished.

E.W.L.
21-3-24.

C-4. V.R.
22-3-24.

C-1.

I am sorry I cannot make anything out of the note. Please send copy.

C.G.T.
22-3-24.

To Under Secy

Submitted.

24.3.24

24.3.24

25.3.24

Cir 26/3

26/3

C1 20/3/24

25.3.24

27/3/24

To Under Secy

Secy's draft order is submitted.

27.3.24 29/3/24

31.3.24

Sectt. II-10 (a)—16,002—6-3-23. (6)

9 Rev DEPARTMENT.

	Date.	Initials.
When received for Fair-copying.		
When copied ..	2/3	AV
When examined ..	1.4	L
When signed ..		
When despatched ..		

READ AGAIN G.O. No. ....., dated ..... 192 .

" " " " ..... " ..... 192 .

READ ALSO;—

C. No. 8296/24 From the Boundaries, Left, No. 885/24-1, dated 12. 3. 1924.

" " ..... " " ..... " " ..... 192 .

" " ..... " " ..... " " ..... 192 .

ORDER.

No. 537, dated 31 - 3 - 1924

Mis

31.3.24.

Recorded.

2/. The Director of Public Health is requested to ~~report~~ state the reasons why he proposes an increase in the scale of wages (of workers) in the quantity of cooked food to dependants in kitchens. While he observes that hardly any of the people ~~relieved~~ undergoing relief looked really famished.

DEF. APR 1924

31.3.24

27/3/24 Wad 28/3/24

To the Boundaries (Left & Right).

" Director of Public Health.